

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204583

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UN, SA

SUBJECT:SOUTH AFRICA AND THE UN

REF: A) USUN 3782; B) USUN 3816

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT IT IS NOW AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO INQUIRE AGAIN IN LOW-KEY MANNER HOW SOUTH AFRICA PLANS TO PROCEED AT 30TH UNGA. DEPARTMENT IS AWARE THROUGH REFTELS THAT SOUTH AFRICAN STRATEGY IS STILL BEING DEBATED WITHIN SAG. HOWEVER, TO ASSIST IN OUR PLANNING FOR 30TH UNGA, DEPARTMENT NOW NEEDS A CLEARER INDICATION OF SAG THINKING ON THE TACTICS THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WILL FOLLOW.

2. IN MAKING INQUIRY USUN AND EMBASSY PRETORIA SHOULD DRAW ON QUESTIONS WHICH FOLLOW. USUN AND PRETORIA SHOULD
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KEEP IN MIND THAT WE ARE ANXIOUS, IN OUR DISCUSSIONS ON

SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION, TO AVOID GIVING ANY SENSE THAT WE ARE TRYING TO TELL SOUTH AFRICA HOW THEY SHOULD ACT IN RELATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. ALSO, WE WANT, ABOVE ALL, TO AVOID ANY SENSE THAT WE ARE IN ANY WAY URGING SOUTH AFRICA NOT TO PARTICIPATE, OR TO LIMIT THEIR PARTICIPATION, IN THE 30TH UNGA. THIS IS A MATTER SOLELY FOR

THEIR OWN DECISION, ALTHOUGH USG WOULD CONTINUE TO OPPOSE WHAT IT CONSIDERS ILLEGAL METHOD OF SUSPENDING SAG, OR ANY OTHER DELEGATION.

3. QUESTIONS:

-- WHAT PLANS HAS THE SAG MADE FOR THE 30TH UNGA IN ANTICIPATION OF ATTEMPTS TO SUSPEND OR EXPEL SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD IT AGAIN ATTEMPT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY? (FYI. LIKE SOUTH AFRICA WE ARE QUITE SURE AFRICANS WILL AGAIN CHALLENGE SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UNGA. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENT THAT, HOWEVER THE SAG DECIDES TO HANDLE ITS CREDENTIALS SOME AFRICAN STATE MAY CHALLENGE SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION AS SOON AS THE SAG PRESENTS ITS CREDENTIALS OR ALTERNATIVELY AS SOON AS THE SAG ASKS TO SPEAK OR VOTES. END FYI)

-- DOES THE SAG PLAN TO SUBMIT ITS CREDENTIALS TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND IF SO AT WHAT STAGE IN THE ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS?

-- IF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AGAIN REJECTS SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS, WHAT WOULD SOUTH AFRICA DO IF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY WERE TO REPEAT THE BOUTEFILKA RULING OR TO MAKE ANOTHER RULING WHICH ALSO RESULTS IN NON-PARTICIPATION, AND THIS IS UPHELD BY THE ASSEMBLY?

4. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA HAS TAKEN ANY STEPS TO CONSULT OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE SUSPENSION FROM THE UNGA. INGERSOLL

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